

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1709

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 7040

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, IN

SUBJECT: VISIT OF MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION

FOR NEA/INS BORN FROM MOYNIHAN

WILL YOU DO ONE LAST FAVOR FOR INDIA BEFORE TRANSFERRING YOUR
LOYALTIES TO BANGLADESH?

RAJ BAHADUR, INDIAN MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION IS
LEAVING TONIGHT ON A TRIP TO LONDON AND THEN NEW YORK, WHERE HE
WILL BE SATURDAY JUNE ONE TO MONDAY JUNE TEN, VISITING AIR
INDIA AND TOURIST OFFICES AND ATTENDING A TOURISM PROMOTION
CONFERENCE. HE WOULD LIKE TO GO TO WASHINGTON ALSO, AND I WOULD
LIKE TO SEE IT ARRANGED. BAHADUR IS A THOROUGHLY ATTRACTIVE,
RATHER SWEET MAN, AND AN INTELLIGENT ONE. HE GOES WAY BACK WITH
THE PRIME MINISTER AND IS NOT WITHOUT SOME INFLUENCE. HE IS
IN ANY EVENT THE SECOND INDIAN MINISTER IN AS MANY MONTHS TO
PROPOSE TO VISIT WASHINGTON ON INDIAN BUSINESS, THE FIRST HAV-
ING BEEN BAROAH, MINISTER OF PETROLEUM. HIS VISIT WAS A DISTINCT
SUCCESS IN GETTING BUSINESS FOR AMERICAN FIRMS. BAHADUR HAS
RATHER THE OPPOSITE OBJECT OF COURSE. HE WANTS AMERICAN TOURISTS.
WE ARE THEIR LARGEST CONTINGENT. YET THEY FLY THEM HERE IN
AMERICAN PLANES, AND THE MORE THEY FLY PRESUMEDLY THE MORE WE
SELL. WELL, YOU KNOW THE ARGUMENTS. FROM MY POINT OF VIEW HE
IS A VOICE IN THE CABINET ARGUING THE IMPORTANCE OF THINGS
AMERICAN.

WOULD YOU THEN TRY OR ORGANIZE A SCHEDULE FOR HIM. IT WOULD BE
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SPLENDID IF HE COULD CALL ON SECRETARY DENT. I AM SURE MY GOOD

FRIEND ALEXANDER P. BUTTERFIELD WOULD BE GLAD TO SEE HIM.
WHO ELSE? YOU KNOW. HE IS INTERESTED IN THE PROMOTION OF GROUP
TOURISM, AND A RANGE OF THINGS LIKE THAT, BUT IT WOULD BE
SUFFICIENT FOR ME IF HE WERE SHOWN SOME GENERAL COURTESY IN
WASHINGTON.

I WILL CABLE DENT AND BUTTERFIELD AND WHOMEVER ELSE YOU SUGGEST
WHEN I HEAR BACK FROM YOU. MOYNIHAN

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